

Mayor Charles L. "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, July 2, 2018. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, John Stauter, Christine Wilen, and Jim Wise. Absent: Aldermen Bob Conklin.

Also present were City Attorney Tim Zollinger, City Manager Scott Shumard, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Superintendent of Public Works Brad Schrader, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Police Chief Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Shirley Sharp stated that the Park District does not permit alcohol in parks. She asked why alcohol was permitted at Grandon for the concert on Wednesday. Why is alcohol necessary for the concert after 90 years? And with children in the park? Will it be legal in other parks, too? It was a business selling alcohol and passing out coupons. Sharp does not think it is appropriate. Sharp noted that usually special events are for fundraising and wondered how this fits. Mayor Lee stated it is a fundraiser for the Band Commission and code permits this type of event.

Tom Brackemeyer likes the City utilizing their extra tax increase for improvements to Second Avenue and Douglas Park. Brackemeyer has not seen any progress on the bad sidewalk on LeFevre between Fourth and Sixth Avenues. He'd like to see the City work with the school to take care of this sidewalk. He has been waiting for a long time.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- A) Bills and Payroll totaling \$395,319.45
- B) Purchase of two (2) 2019 Ford AWD Utility Police Interceptors from Kunes Country Auto Group in Sterling in the amount of \$52,651.60
- C) Purchase one unmarked vehicle, Ford Edge, from Kunes Country Auto Group in the amount of \$20,140.90

The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Chief Morgan explained that although Kunes was a higher bid, they included license and title, making the difference \$45. Because of sending staff to the Quad Cities, it makes Kunes a better deal.

Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Martin made a motion to approve Mayor Lee's recommendations to appoint and reappoint the following people to their respective boards and commissions; seconded by Alderman Elston.

Building Code Board of Appeals

Reappoint Marv Lofgren, term expires 6/30/2023

Reappoint John Gehrke, term expires 6/30/2023

Electrical Commission Reappoint Nicholas Escobar, term expires 6/30/2023

Fire and Police Commission Reappoint Mary White, term expires 6/30/2021

Hospital Board Reappoint Dr. Shawn Hanlon, term expires 6/30/2023

Reappoint John Benson, term expires 6/30/2023

Library Board Reappoint Brooke Cochran, term expires 6/30/2021

Reappoint Patricia Nice, term expires 6/30/2021

Plan Commission Reappoint Aurelio Gallardo, term expires 6/30/2021

Reappoint Doug Freed, term expires 6/30/2021

Police Pension Board Reappoint Colin Reynolds, term expires 6/30/2020

Property Maintenance Code Appeals Board

Reappoint Eddy Nicklaus, term expires 6/30/2020

Reappoint Kurt Glazier, term expires 6/30/2020

Sterling Industrial Development Commission

Reappoint Jerry Binder, term expires 6/30/2023

Tree Board Appoint Mark Thomaschefskey

Zoning Board of Appeals Reappoint Linda Dir, term expires 6/30/2023
Reappoint Carol A. Eberly, term expires 6/30/2023

Alderman Wise asked how many people serve on the Fire-Police Commission and if any are retired Fire or Police personnel. Mayor Lee stated Mary White is being reappointed and has served as the Chairman. Mayor Lee advised that with future appointments, he plans to add fire or police experience. Alderman Wise asked if the Code could be written to ensure that.

Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None.
Motion carried.

Alderman Wise made a motion to award the low bid of \$1,859,669.23 to Fischer Excavating, Inc. for the Douglas Park Stormwater Improvement Project; seconded by

Alderman Martin. Alderman Wise asked if signs are ready to advertise the project. Superintendent Schrader stated the signs are up. Alderman Martin asked if there was anything substantial to separate the bids. Manager Shumard thought it may be excavating costs. Alderman Stauter is happy to see Douglas Park getting these improvements after waiting so long for their street lights after being annexed. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Motion carried.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve **Resolution #R2108-07-11 providing for a feasibility study on the designation of a portion of the City of Sterling as a redevelopment project area under the Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act and to induce development interest with in such study area**; seconded by Alderman Martin.

Manager Shumard explained a Developer has expressed interest in the old K-mart and Beef-a-Roo properties. Shumard stated there will be a meeting with Mayor Lee, himself, and the interested parties. Any feasibility study would have to come back to the Council for approval before proceeding. Alderman Wise asked about the timeline. Manager Shumard is unsure. Alderman Martin asked if it's a new business or one relocating. Shumard could not answer. Alderman Wise stated that he has mixed feelings on TIF Districts. If we would go through with this TIF District, Wise wants to exclude the School District because they need their money. Manager Shumard stated the "but for" clause in TIF Districts is understood by taxing bodies that if the development does not take place, they would not have the additional tax money anyway.

Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Stauter, Wilen, and Wise. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lee asked Superintendent Schmidt about the building next to Air Play. Schmidt reported Air Play employees noticed crumbling bricks and then contacted Code Enforcement on Monday. The front façade of the "Treasures" store and Maria's Pizza are crumbling and have been blocked off.

Manager Shumard asked for any suggestions for people to serve on the Mural Commission. The Sanborn drainage project bids will be received next week.

Alderman Martin stated that he was in Peoria last weekend and noticed the dire straits they are in because of losing sales tax from two Bergner's stores.

Alderman Elston reported a phone call from a happy citizen with the work done at Lincoln Park. Elston reminded everyone of the Patriotic concert on Wednesday. She reported the success of the movie last week after being moved to the theater. Elston felt there was a good response to the Pop-up Market.

Alderman Wise saw a great deal of activity at the Market, too.

Mayor Lee announced that electronics are not recyclable and will not be picked up by Republic Services. Mayor Lee asked everyone to remember what the Fourth of July commemorates.

The meeting adjourned to a study session at 7:07 pm.

Becky Rodriguez with Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson explained the reasoning behind the Small Wireless Facilities Ordinance. This ordinance is of vital interest to communities with population less than one million. Facilities can be attached to light poles in the right-of-way. This will fill in gaps in broadband service in more rural communities. The size of the facility will be 25 cubic feet total, which is the size of a refrigerator and the antenna shall be no more than 6 cubic feet, or the size of a mini refrigerator. A detailed application by the wireless provider is required. This will be effective until June 1, 2021 and will then be reevaluated. The ordinance protects providers from communities denying requests.

Alderman Stauter asked about the fees. Rodriguez stated the fees are set by the state in the ordinance.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Marie Rombouts
City Clerk